

LAW OFFICES
414 UNION STREET, SUITE 1600
POST OFFICE BOX 198062
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219

February 15, 2001

REG'D TN REGULATORY AUTH.

'01 FEB 16 RM 10 45

OFFICE OF FACSMILE (615) 244-2582

EXECUTIVE STOREMARD://www.bccb.com/

Mr. David Waddell Executive Secretary Tennessee Regulatory Authority 360 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37201

Re:

Tariff Filings by all Telephone Companies Regarding Reclassification of

Pay Telephone Service as Required by FCC Order 96-439

Docket No. 97-00409

Dear Mr. Waddell:

Henry Walker

(615) 252-2363

Fax: (615) 252-6363 Email: hwalker@bccb.com

The Authority has requested comments from the parties to the above-captioned proceeding concerning whether or not the TRA should "de-average" rates for payphone lines.

The Tennessee Payphone Owners Association ("TPOA") agrees with the comments expressed in the TRA's Initial Order of February 1, 2001, that average rates will promote the widespread availability of payphones in rural areas, consistent with the goals of state and federal law.

Therefore, TPOA supports average, state-wide payphone rates for each local exchange carrier.

Very truly yours,

BOULT, CUMMINGS, CONNERS & BERRY, PLC

Henry Walker

HW/nl Enclosure c: Parties